

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ABIDJA 00537 181606Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 EB-08 OPIC-03 SSO-00 NSCE-00
USIE-00 CPR-01 PM-05 OPR-02 PA-01 PRS-01 SS-15
SY-05 A-01 INRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 USSS-00
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O P 181515Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6970
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABIDJAN 0537

FOR AF/W DIRECTOR THOMAS W.M. SMITH

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP, US, IV (YACE, PHILIPPE)
SUBJ: PROJECTED VISIT TO U.S. OF IVORY COAST
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PRESIDENT PHILIPPE YACE

REF: STATE 013380

1. TIME IS GETTING SHORT IF WE ARE TO INVITE PHILIPPE
YACE TO VISIT WASHINGTON DURING TEN DAYS HE WILL BE
IN UNITED STATES AND IF WE ARE TO ASSURE THAT HE
RECEIVES RECEPTION APPROPRIATE TO HIS RANK AND FRIEND-
SHIP FOR U.S. I HAVE NOT RPT NOT DISCUSSED YACE'S
TRIP DIRECTLY WITH HIM PENDING SOME INDICATION FROM
WASHINGTON OF WHAT WAS BEING PLANNED. WHILE I AM
SURE YACE WOULD APPRECIATE DICK MOOSE'S LUNCHEON
INVITATION, I DOUBT THAT YACE WILL GO TO WASHINGTON
UNLESS FAIRLY FULL SCHEDULE OF APPOINTMENTS WITH SENIOR
U.S. OFFICIALS HAS BEEN ARRANGED BY DEPARTMENT, IVORIAN
EMBASSY OR BOTH. AS YOU KNOW, AMBASSADOR ANOUA HAS BEEN
IN ABIDJAN FOR PAST TWO WEEKS. HE HAS NOT RPT NOT
HOWEVER CONTACTED US AND I CANNOT SAY WHETHER HE HAS ANY
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PAGE 02 ABIDJA 00537 181606Z

PLANS TO ENCOURAGE YACE TO VISIT WASHINGTON. I THINK WE
SHOULD PROCEED WITH OUR OWN PLANNING ON THE ASSUMPTION
THAT UNLESS VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE CAN AGREE TO RECEIVE
YACE AND UNLESS OTHER APPROPRIATE APPOINTMENTS AND FUNCTIONS
CAN BE ARRANGED, WE SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON WHAT CAN BE DONE
IN NEW YORK. I THINK, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT IT IS IMPORTANT
TO OUR RELATIONS WITH THE IVORIAN GOVERNMENT AND WITH

YACE PERSONALLY THAT HE MEET WITH AMBASSADOR YOUNG. WHILE IN NEW YORK. BY SEPTEL I WILL BE CABLING USUN TO SET FORTH YACE'S SCHEDULE AS WE KNOW IT AND URGING HIM TO MEET WITH YACE TO DISCUSS WIDE RANGE OF AFRICAN ISSUES IN WHICH IVORIANS ARE KEENLY INTERESTED.

2. MEANWHILE, I SUGGEST WE EXPLORE WITH GOVERNOR HARRIMAN WHETHER GOVERNOR WOULD BE WILLING TO HAVE LUNCHEON OR DINNER FOR YACE WITH SMALL GROUP OF HIGH-RANKING CONGRESSIONAL AND EXECUTIVE BRANCH REPRESENTATIVES. I WOULD APPRECIATE IT THEREFORE IF YOU WOULD TELEPHONE GOVERNOR HARRIMAN OR HIS SECRETARY, MARGUERITE CHAPMEN, AND PASS HIM THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM ME:

3. QUOTE. THE PRESIDENT OF THE IVORY COAST NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, PHILIPPE YACE, WHO IS ALSO THE DESIGNATED SUCCESSOR TO PRESIDENT HOUPHOUET-BOIGNY, PLANS TO BE IN THE UNITED STATES FROM JANUARY 27 UNTIL ABOUT THE END OF THE FIRST WEEK OF FEBRUARY. YACE EXPECTS TO SPEND MOST OR ALL OF THIS TIME IN NEW YORK, BUT I VERY MUCH HOPE THAT HE WILL BE ABLE TO VISIT WASHINGTON AS WELL. WHETHER OR NOT HE DECIDES TO GO TO WASHINGTON WILL, OF COURSE, DEPEND ON WHOM HE CAN SEE THERE. STATE DEPARTMENT IS SEEKING AN APPOINTMENT WITH VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE, BUT I GATHER HAS RECEIVED NO REPLY YET FROM VICE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE.
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PAGE 03 ABIDJA 00537 181606Z

4. "RECALLING THAT YACE CALLED ON YOU TWO YEARS AGO TO SOLICIT YOUR SUPPORT FOR THE NOMINATION OF HOUPHOUET FOR NOBEL PEACE PRIZE, AND KNOWING YOUR LONGSTANDING INTEREST IN THE IVORY COAST, I WONDER WHETHER YOUR BUSY SCHEDULE WOULD PERMIT LUNCHEON OR DINNER WITH YACE EITHER IN WASHINGTON OR NEW YORK. A GET-TOGETHER UNDER YOUR AUSPICES AT WHICH YACE WOULD MEET AND TALK WITH EXECUTIVE BRANCH AND CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS INTERESTED IN AFRICAN AFFAIRS WOULD DO A WORLD OF GOOD FOR OUR RELATIONS WITH THE IVORY COAST. YACE HIMSELF IS AN ARTICULATE AND INTELLIGENT IVORIAN NATIONALIST, WHO PLAYS A ROLE HERE SECOND ONLY TO THAT OF HOUPHOUET HIMSELF. HE IS EXTREMELY WELL-DISPOSED TO THE UNITED STATES AND, LIKE HOUPHOUET, HAS WARM PERSONAL REGARDS FOR YOU. MRS. YACE WILL BE TRAVELING TO NEW YORK WITH HER HUSBAND SHOULD SHE COME TO WASHINGTON, I THINK THAT YOU AND PAM WOULD FIND HER GOOD COMPANY AS WELL AS BEING EXTREMELY WELL- INFORMED AND ATTRACTIVE.

5. "I HAVE ASKED TOM SMITH OF AF/W TO PASS THIS MESSAGE ALONG TO YOU. I AM SORRY THAT IN THE ABSENCE OF A FIRM

APPOINTMENT WITH VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE YACE'S SCHEDULE
IS STILL UNCERTAIN. TOM SMITH CAN KEEP YOU INFORMED OF
FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS. WITH AFFECTIONATE BEST WISHES AND
NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS. MONTY. UNQUOTE.
STEARNS

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